

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 5/29/25

(Filing No. S-178)

**MINORITY**

**JUDICIARY**

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**STATE OF MAINE**

**SENATE**

**132ND LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 68, L.D. 132, "Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Constitution of Maine"

Amend the resolve by striking out all of section 2 and inserting the following:

**'Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved;** That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, the commission consists of 16 voting members as follows:

1. Four members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, including members from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature;

2. Four members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House, including members from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature;

3. One constitutional law scholar with expertise in the history of the Constitution of Maine or member of the Maine State Bar Association who has substantial practice experience with legal issues related to the Constitution of Maine appointed by the President of the Senate;

4. One member representing the Maine Municipal Association appointed by the President of the Senate;

5. One member representing law enforcement in the State appointed by the Speaker of the House;

6. One representative of the state chapter of a national civil liberties organization appointed by the Speaker of the House;

7. The Secretary of State or the Secretary of State's designee;

8. The Governor or the Governor's designee; and

9. Two members of federally recognized Indian tribes in the State appointed by the Governor. The Governor shall appoint these members based on the joint recommendations of the tribal governments of the Mi'kmaq Nation, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians,

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

1 the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Motahkomikuk, the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Sipayik and the  
2 Penobscot Nation.

3 The chairs of the commission shall invite the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial  
4 Court to designate a member of the judicial branch to serve as a nonvoting member of the  
5 commission in an advisory capacity.

6 Amend the resolve by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or  
7 section number to read consecutively.

8 **SUMMARY**

9 This amendment changes the membership of the Commission to Study the Constitution  
10 of Maine established in the resolve by adding:

- 11 1. One member representing the Maine Municipal Association;  
12 2. One member representing law enforcement in Maine;  
13 3. The Governor or the Governor's designee; and  
14 4. Two members of federally recognized Indian tribes in the State, appointed by the  
15 Governor based on the joint recommendations of the federally recognized Indian tribes.

16 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

17 (See attached)



# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 132

LR 52(02)

**Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Constitution of Maine**

**Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A(5-178)"**  
**Committee: Judiciary**  
**Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

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## Fiscal Note

### Legislative Cost/Study

#### Legislative Cost/Study

The general operating expenses of this study are projected to be \$8,400 in fiscal year 2025-26 and \$8,650 in fiscal year 2026-27. The Legislature's proposed budget for the 2026-2027 biennium includes \$22,196 in each of fiscal years 2025-26 and 2026-27 for the costs of legislative studies, as well as \$8,265 in projected balances from fiscal year 2024-25 and \$33,073 of balances carried over from prior years for this purpose. Whether these amounts are sufficient to fund all studies will depend on the number of studies authorized by the Legislative Council and the Legislature. The additional costs of providing staffing assistance to the study during the interim can be absorbed utilizing existing budgeted staff resources.

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

Additional costs to the Executive Department and the Department of Secretary of State associated with serving on the commission are expected to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.